



ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

February 11, 1991

MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARIES OF THE MILITARY DEPARTMENTS
ASSISTANT SECRETARIES OF DEFENSE
COMPTROLLER
DIRECTORS OF THE DEFENSE AGENCIES

SUBJECT: Executive Agent Delegation of Acquisition Functions for Interim Standard Information Systems

To ensure an appropriate mission focus is maintained in peacetime, contingency, surge and mobilization conditions, the Comptroller's memorandum of November 7, 1990, "Executive Agent Charter for Management of Interim Systems," makes explicit the tie between the Executive Agent responsible for the management of an interim standard information system and the Corporate Information Management Functional Steering Committee and the OSD Senior Functional Official. This same memorandum and the Comptroller's memorandum of June 25, 1990, "Guidelines on Interim Standard Information Systems," acknowledge that some development may be required to enable an interim standard information system(s) to satisfy functional requirements. These memoranda do not specifically address the delegation of Executive Agent authority for development or acquisition activities related to interim standard information systems.

In discussions among our staffs, the appropriate delegation and apportionment of the Executive Agent authorities between the Component functional structure and the Component acquisition structure has been questioned. Development activities include determining technical feasibility, development of an acquisition strategy, and designing and developing modifications to existing systems in accordance with established policies contained in DoD Directive 7920.1, "Life Cycle Management of Automated Information Systems" of June 20, 1988.

The delegation and assignment of Executive Agent authorities, as relates to information system acquisition matters, should be consistent with DoD Directive 5000.1, Major and Non-Major Defense Acquisition Programs, dated September 1, 1987. As the DoD Components are not all organized in the same manner, each Executive Agent, in the execution of the Executive Agent function, must determine the appropriate delegation and assignment of specific responsibilities within the Component functional structure and the Component acquisition structure (AE/PEO/PM). As the Department's Senior Information Management Official, I am willing to assist in any way I can to resolve issues arising from the designation of Executive Agents for interim standard information systems.

Duane P. Andrews